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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/006,089	12/06/2001	Gary Cole	WAVE1110-1	8837

7590 10/13/2005

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EXAMINER

YIGDALL, MICHAEL J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2192

DATE MAILED: 10/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

10/006,089

Applicant(s)

COLE, GARY

Examiner

Michael J. Yigdall

Art Unit

2192

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 05 August 2005 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☐ The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
b) ☒ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☒ will be entered ~~and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.~~
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
Claim(s) allowed: _____.
Claim(s) objected to: _____.
Claim(s) rejected: 1-4, 6-12 and 14-33.
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing a good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☒ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:
See Continuation Sheet.
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____
13. ☐ Other: _____.

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Continuation of 11.

Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant contends that Gwertzman's database does not correspond to the identity index recited in claim 1 (Applicant's remarks, page 3, last paragraph). However, the examiner does not agree with Applicant's characterization. The table attached to this advisory action clearly maps the elements of claim 1 to the corresponding elements of Gwertzman.

Specifically, Applicant contends that "[e]ach entry in Gwertzman's database, which the Examiner equates to virtual identities, contains information regarding only a single logical name mapped to a single path name," and that "[n]o mention is made, either at the Examiner's cited passages or elsewhere, regarding a virtual identity that comprises a plurality of information object identifiers each corresponding to a respective information object" (Applicant's remarks, page 3, last paragraph to page 4, top paragraph).

However, each entry or virtual identity in Gwertzman's database includes "DepObject" and "DepProp" fields (see, for example, column 8, TABLE 1). Gwertzman teaches that the "DepObject" and "DepProp" fields "are used to instantiate a second object using information obtained from a first, already instantiated object" (column 8, lines 28-30). The first object is instantiated with the "ADSPPath" and "Suffix" fields (see, for example, column 8, lines 21-24). Thus, the fields in each entry of Gwertzman's database identify at least two information objects. In other words, each entry or virtual identity comprises a plurality of information object identifiers.

Applicant further contends that "Gwertzman's database entries do not contain resource definitions" that include connection information, and that "[n]owhere does Gwertzman describe TABLE 1 as being part of, or as describing, the database, which the Examiner equates to an identity index" (Applicant's remarks, page 4, first full paragraph).


However, each entry or virtual identity in Gwertzman's database includes "BindAsName" and "BindAsPassword" fields (see, for example, column 8, TABLE 1). The fields defined in TABLE 1 form configuration information (see, for example, column 8, lines 3-5), which is to say a resource definition. In particular, the "BindAsName" and "BindAsPassword" fields are the credentials needed to access or connect to a storage mechanism (see, for example, column 42-49). Thus, the "BindAsName" and "BindAsPassword" are connection information. In fact, Gwertzman teaches that "[w]ithout proper authentication, the requesting application cannot access the storage mechanism" (column 8, lines 45-46). Importantly, the fields defined in TABLE 1 are indeed part of Gwertzman's database. Gwertzman provides an example of the database (see, for example, column 10, lines 3-25) and expressly discloses, at column 10, lines 28-31: "The configuration file is shown with three database entries. The first database entry is for a root directory since the name field is NULL. The second and third database entries have name fields of 'MSN' and 'investor,' respectively." Each database entry includes the "BindAsName" and "BindAsPassword" fields, as well as the "DepObject" and "DepProp" fields noted above.

Referring to claim 2, Applicant contends that "the schemas of Gwertzman are not comprised in a resource definition that is part of a virtual identity that in turn is part of an identity index" (Applicant's remarks, page 5, first paragraph). However, the configuration information in each entry or virtual identity of Gwertzman's database includes a "Schema" field (see, for example, column 8, TABLE 1). Thus, Gwertzman teaches that the configuration information or resource definition comprises a schema map.

Referring to claim 3, Applicant contends that "Gwertzman fails to disclose that the schema map maps a resource attribute from the resource to a virtual attribute defined by the schema map" (Applicant's remarks, page 5, second paragraph). However, the schema map defines elements that identify the properties included in each information object (see, for example, column 7, lines 51-56). Based on the schema map, "[t]he application developer can select a property desired and is presented with the logical name of the data structure containing that property" (column 7, lines 63-65). Thus, an element in the schema map is a virtual property or virtual attribute. The virtual attribute is then used to request the actual property or attribute from an information object located at a storage mechanism (see, for example, column 9, lines 28-44). In other words, the schema map maps an actual property or attribute from the resource to a virtual attribute defined in an element of the schema map.

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Claim 1	Gwertzman
<p>A system for managing information comprising:</p> <p>a software program stored on a computer-readable medium operable to maintain an identity index, wherein said identity index comprises:</p> <p>a virtual identity further comprising:</p> <p>a <i>plurality</i> of information object identifiers each corresponding to a respective information object; and</p> <p>for each information object, a resource name identifying a resource at which said respective information object is located, wherein said resource name is associated with said respective information object identifier; and</p> <p>a resource definition corresponding to each respective said named resource, wherein the resource definition further comprises connection information.</p>	<p>a storage mechanism interface (84 in FIG. 3), which includes database entries (column 10, lines 3-25) that form an identity index (see, for example, column 7, lines 1-8)</p> <p>a database entry, such as the entry for "[msn]" (column 10, lines 12-18), where "msn" is a logical name (see, for example, column 6, lines 52-65)</p> <p>an actual name, comprised of the "ADSPath" plus the "Suffix" from the database entry (see, for example, column 8, lines 21-24), which identifies and corresponds to a respective data structure or object (see, for example, column 6, lines 52-65); a <i>plurality</i> because the "DepObject" and "DepProp" from the database entry identify at least a second object from the first object (see, for example, column 8, lines 28-30)</p> <p>a path name (the "ADSPath" from the database entry) that identifies the storage mechanism resource at which the data structure or object is located (see, for example, column 7, lines 1-8)</p> <p>configuration information for the storage mechanism, comprised of at least the "Schema," the "BindAsName" and the "BindAsPassword" from the database entry, specifically in which the "BindAsName" and "BindAsPassword" are access information for connecting to the storage mechanism (see, for example, column 8, lines 42-49)</p>


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